

# **Arkansas State Plan 2009**

## **Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment**

### **Background**

Pursuant to 42 USC 300X-51, the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS), Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention (OADAP) invites public comment on the development of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) State Plan to be submitted with the state's SAPT Block Grant Application for Federal Fiscal Year 2010. The SAPT State Plan specifies the methods used to assess the need for treatment and prevention programs for alcohol and other drug abuse.

### **Proposed 2010 SAPT State Plan**

The State allocates funding by utilizing population figures, crime statistics, and drug-related infectious disease rates for sub state planning areas in conjunction with input from the Arkansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinating Council (the Coordinating Council). The Coordinating Council is a twenty-seven (27) member, governor appointed panel which meets monthly to provide input and approval in regards to issues relating to substance abuse provider grants and contracts.

OADAP meets with the Arkansas Nonprofit Treatment Providers Association to discuss and explore sub-state substance abuse issues and trends. Also, OADAP meets with all funded treatment providers on a quarterly basis for the sharing of information and the solicitation of input.

Arkansas' SAPT State Plan has traditionally served as the centerpiece of the state's application for federal funds. Accordingly, the timetable for developing the State Plan has been dependent upon deadlines and guidelines from the federal government. At a minimum, the plan is released to the general public, the Arkansas Association of Alcohol and Drug Counselors, the Arkansas Substance Abuse Certification Board, and the Arkansas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinating Council for review.

The process for completing the entire SAPT Block Grant Application generally takes approximately four calendar months to complete, including gathering and interpreting statistics, adding new or updated information to the format, a public comment period, and rewriting and printing time. Historically, OADAP has utilized either a public hearing process or a structured public comment process in order to solicit input on the development of the SAPT State Plan. For Federal Fiscal Year 2010, OADAP is advertising a public comment period on its SAPT State Plan via two (2) newspaper insertions in the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*, which is a state-wide publication, and by posting the plan on the Arkansas

Department of Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services website (<http://www.arkansas.gov/dhs/dmhs/>). All comments must be submitted to OADAP in time for consideration prior to the September 30<sup>th</sup> due date for the overall application to be submitted to the federal government.

### ***Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Planning Processes***

Plans for substance abuse treatment and prevention services and activities are developed for thirteen (13) catchment areas. These plans involve special emphasis directed toward certain target populations such as youth, intravenous drug users, women and etc. The data are used to provide guidance in decision making. Since substance abuse treatment and prevention services are community-based, local providers submit grant applications and contract proposals to OADAP. All potential contractors and grantees must follow procedures that include the utilization of proven models with both process and outcome objectives and evaluations.

Data collection for treatment services consists of admissions and discharge information gathered from all licensed treatment providers through the OADAP Alcohol/Drug Abuse Management Information System (ADMIS); State Drug Task Force information on arrests and confiscations; Arkansas Department of Health incidence and prevalence data on AIDS/STDs, TB (tuberculosis) and Hepatitis; Arkansas State Crime Information Center; Arkansas State Crime Lab Drug Analysis reports; and Arkansas census information. Arkansas continues to report valid needs assessment data.

Data collection for prevention activities includes the administration of the Arkansas Prevention Needs Assessment (APNA), which is conducted annually and provides information from school districts throughout the state. Also, Prevention Resource Centers (PRCs) and other prevention grantees and contractors are on-line with MDS System (the Prevention Minimum Data Set), which is a process level evaluation computer program developed by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). The APNA student survey results, Archival Risk Factors data, and the annual Synar Report (a report on progress made in enforcing youth tobacco access laws and future plans to reduce youth tobacco access rates) are all accessible through the DBHS website previously cited. These data collection systems and reports provide large volumes of information that can be used for prevention planning and evaluation.

Also used for planning purposes, Prevention Services has a Prevention Library and Clearinghouse that contains materials accessible regionally through the Prevention Resource Center System. All 13 Prevention Resource Centers, the Prevention Institute, and the Midsouth Summer School function as RADAR (Regional Alcohol and Drug Awareness Resource) Associates, which means that they serve as a local (grassroots) distribution and outreach component to enhance the ability to disseminate substance abuse prevention information.

OADAP facilitates alcohol and other drug awareness events scheduled throughout the year. Events include presentations, newspaper ads, health fairs, booths at conferences/, workshops, and highlights at state or national awareness campaigns conducted during specific months of the year (e.g. Red Ribbon Campaign, Alcohol Awareness Month, etc.). These events, as appropriate, are coordinated with community level efforts.

The Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention monitors computer generated monthly reports that measure funding utilization and service capacity. The office will continue to utilize a combination of techniques as well as on-site monitoring and licensure processes to provide the best analysis and subsequent services for substance abuse treatment and prevention for the State of Arkansas.